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Vol. XVIII No. 11
MARCH 17, 1971

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"WEST SIDE STORY"

Yes - we have
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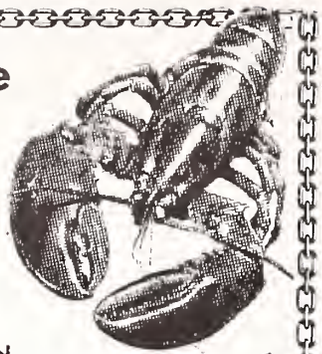
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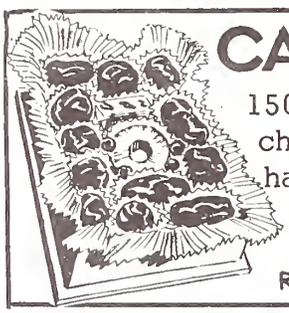
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END HOT WATER SHORTAGES
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Ballet scene during rehearsal of "West Side Story".

DISCUSSION ON YEAR ROUND SCHOOL

Mattapoisett Selectmen met with the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Joseph Kunces; his assistant, Albert Jenney; the principal of Mattapoisett Schools, John R. Moynihan; and the School Building Committee to discuss the 12 month school system. A committee will soon be appointed to make a thorough study of the subject. This com-

COVER - Candid photos of "West Side Story" open paper flat and see page 24 for captions.

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When buying insurance you are buying protection . . . and you will rely on it for months and years. The services of a full-time, professional independent insurance agency are essential to your welfare. Buy wisely . . . price alone is no criterion in buying insurance.
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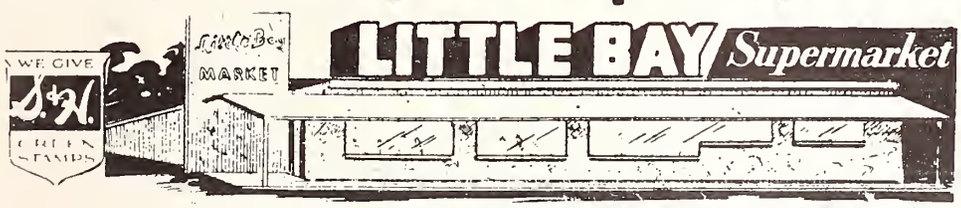

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mittee will be composed of both school personnel and representatives from the town at large.

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Scene from "West Side Story". During the ballet "Dream Sequence", Jacquie Robb sings "Somewhere". Boys in evidence are left to right Scott Atkinson, who plays "Chino"; Paul Graham who is "Diesel", and Jeff Dunn as "Action".

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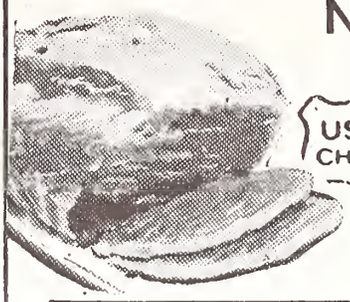

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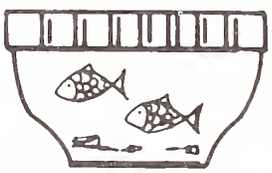

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911 for Emergencies

DIAL 911 FOR POLICE & FIRE DEPTS.

Mattapoisett residents will dial only "911" to reach their police and fire departments and ambulance service starting March 22nd.

Local New England Telephone manager Francis J. Brown said that Mattapoisett Selectmen arranged to have the company provide this new emergency calling system.

Brown said, "By dialing just three digits, the caller will be immediately connected to a centralized emergency bureau which has direct access to all emergency services."

He stressed that residents should use the emergency numbers for just that -- only in an emergency situation and that they should continue to use the regular administrative numbers for all other calls.

"In this way, the '911' lines will be kept open to handle emergencies faster," Brown said.

JUROR CHOSEN

Allan F. Fales of 20 Upland Way, Mattapoisett has been drawn for jury duty beginning the first Monday in April for the Civil Session in Plymouth.

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3 1/2 MILES OFF RT. 6, MATTAPOISETT on NORTH ST.
Please call for reservations 763-5337

Mattapoisett Woman's Club

BOOKS TO BE REVIEWED AT WOMAN'S CLUB

Miss Rita Steele of the Fairhaven Public Library (Millicent Library) will be reviewing several of the current best selling books for the members of the Mattapoisett Woman's Club at their meeting on March 25th at 2 P.M. in the Congregational Church parish hall. She plans to present a good variety of selections and will have a copy of her booklist for each of the members and guests present.

Honored guest at the meeting will be Mrs. Raymond Peterson, president of the Massachusetts State Federation of Women's Clubs. There will be a baby sitting service available from 1:45 P.M. through the meeting.

Tea chairman will be Mrs. George Sylvia, assisted by Mrs. Bruce Bedford, Mrs. Sum-

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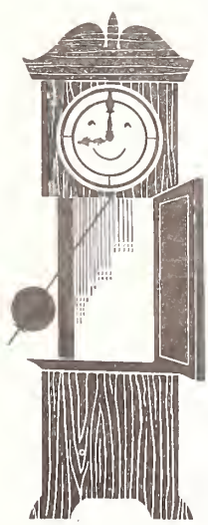

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Lenten Projects

Congratulations to the 5th graders in Mrs. Haskell's Church School class. They are the first class to kick off the Congregational Church's Church's School's Lenten project of raising money to send some chickens to a tribe of Indians in New York.

By running a very successful traveling bake sale they earned $21.60 and also had a $5.00 contribution bringing the total to $26.60.

This Saturday the ninth graders will try their luck by running a door to door bake sale.

The following week the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th graders are continuing their talents and are going to run a fair with many different booths from 1 to 4 at the church March 27th.

Let's all join in helping these young people by giving them your full support in this

A. W. WINTERS MARION, MASS.
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PUMPING CLEANING REPAIRING
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I can tell you all the great things about the bank as well as *they* can. For example, *all accounts* give you instant interest, compounded daily and paid monthly — from day of deposit to day of withdrawal. Think about it! Your money is earning every banking day of the week, as sure as I'm seaworthy!

There's plenty of free parking at the bank. And don't forget the handy drive-in window service. See you at Fairhaven Savings, real soon.

Georges . . . you can take over now. But folks, you'll be seeing more of me!"

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very constructive project and also showing them it is better to give than to receive.

Bowling & Pizza

COUPLES CLUB TO HAVE BOWLING PARTY

St. Anthony's Church Couples Club, Mattapoisett, will hold their next meeting at the Atlantic Ten Pin Lanes in Fairhaven on Saturday, March 27th, for an evening of bowling. A pizza feast will follow! Couples are asked to meet at the lanes promptly at 7:15 P.M.

For reservations or more information call Mr. and Mrs. James Osborne, Jr., 6038, chairman; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Regan, 6003; Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Bilodeau, 3590; or Dr. and Mrs. Clayton King, 6401.

St.Anthony's Guild

SLIDES TO BE SHOWN AT GUILD

Saint Anthony's Women's Guild will hold their March meeting this Wednesday evening. All women of the parish are urged to take advantage of the 7 P.M. Mass during the Lenten season. At 8 P.M. the group will meet in the church hall and announcements of coming events will begin the Saint Patrick's Day program. Father Frank Gillespie will give a brief history of Catholicism and show slides of his trip to Ireland. Refreshments will follow. Members and guests are warmly invited. Those needing transportation should call 758-6475.

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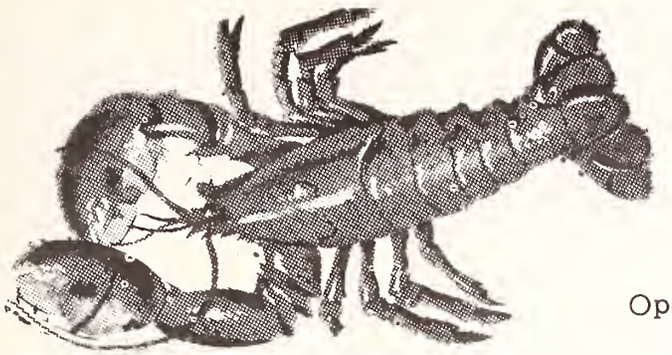

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LITTLE NECKS
FRESH SHRIMP

FISH ON THE WHARF
MATTAPOISETT WHARF . 758-4488
Open TUESDAY thru SATURDAY. Tues. 10 'til 5:30
WED., THURS., SAT. 10 to 6; FRIDAY 10 'til 7

MATT. WARRANTS DUE SOON

The warrants for the annual Mattapoisett Town Meeting, which is to be held Monday, April 5th, are expected to be delivered during the week of March 22nd.

Bottles, Aluminum Cans

PROGRAM ON ECOLOGY AT ORRHS

The 7th grade Ecology Class at Old Rochester Regional High School, under the supervision of Mr. James Hubbard, Jr., is still conducting their 6 to 8 week program on ecology, to help clean up the community. To earn money they have been picking up aluminum cans and returnable bottles to make their course a self-supporting one. They will return these cans and bottles to the companies who are buying them for future use. The money they receive will help buy equipment needed for the program.

The students would appreciate the help of the community in making it a better place to live. They will also relieve you of any aluminum cans and returnable bottles. Please contact the Ecology Class at Old Rochester, telephone 758-3745, if you wish the help of this group.

WHIST PARTY

A public whist party will be held at St. Rose of Lima Church hall, Rochester, on Saturday, March 20th, at 8 P.M. Mrs. Walter Wojtkonski is chairman. Refreshments will be served.

Gala ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY

Corned Beef & Cabbage $2.95 per person
ALL YOU CAN EAT!!
DANCE like a leprechaun to the music of DONALD O'MARTIN and His Boys ... 'Tis Sure to be a Grande Olde Tyme!

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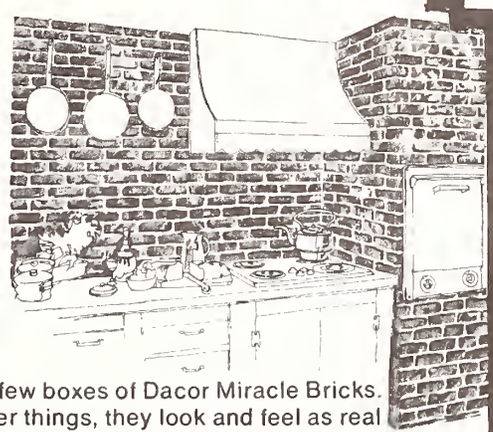

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12 12-oz.N.R.
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PACKAGE STORE
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Fairhaven line. Frank Linhares, Prop.
Mon-Fri 10am to 10pm. Sat. 9 am to 11 pm.
DELIVERY 6 to 8 PM. 758-4451

A THANK YOU

Mr. Anthony DeCosta of 21 Mechanic Street, Mattapoisett, thanks all of the many friends who sent cards and flowers during his stay in the hospital. He returned home on Saturday, March 6th.

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March 27 - For Scholarship

ITALIAN EVENING AT ORRHS

"An Italian Evening" is being sponsored by the Old Rochester Teacher's Club to benefit the scholarship fund. This evening promises to provide a good time for everyone who attends. The date of the "Italian Evening" is March 27th and the time is from 5:30 until 7:30.

The public is cordially invited to attend this affair, and it is hoped that there will be a good turnout.

ZONING BY-LAW & ZONING MAPS STUDY COMMITTEE MEETING ON WEDNESDAY

There will be a meeting of the Zoning By-Law and Zoning Maps Study Committee this WEDNESDAY, March 17th, at 7:30 P.M. at the Mattapoisett Town Hall. All interested citizens are invited to attend any of these bi-monthly meetings.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR HELEN CHURCH

A memorial service will be held in loving memory of Helen L. (Weigel) Church on March 21, 1971 at 2:30 P.M. at the Rochester Center Congregational Church, Rochester Center.

In lieu of flowers, donations will be accepted by Rev. Stanley E. Decker, 1180 Main Street, Acushnet, which will be sent to Tobey Hospital for their kindness to her

HARRY A. BROWN, JR.

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Twin bands of 14 Karat gold, which symbolize Mother and Father, are joined by lustrous synthetic birthstones, one for each child in the family. Ring with one Stone - $25.
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Buy with confidence. ONLY the "Mother's Ring" carries a tag with U. S. Patent #186,183 . . . Look for it.

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208 MAIN ST. WAREHAM 295-0073
WE SERVICE ALL MAKES OF JEWELED WATCHES
MEMBER
WAREHAM MAIN ST. MERCHANTS ASSOC. & CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

during her illness.
All friends are invited to attend.

Easter Seals Coffee Day

NAMED CHAIRMAN FOR COFFEE DAY

Mrs. John Layport of Ship Street, Mattapoisett has been named chairman of Coffee Day for crippled children for this community. Mrs. Layport is a housewife.

Coffee Day to be held this year on Thursday, April 8th, is an annual event of the Massachusetts Easter Seal Society held in conjunction with the Easter Seal campaign. It is a two-week special promotion that starts Thursday, March 25th, when the sale of small red buttons starts in restaurants, drug stores, coffee shops and snack bars throughout the State. Buttons are sold for $1.00 and on April 8th anyone who has bought a button may drink all the free coffee he wants in any of the participating establishments.

All Coffee Day proceeds go toward the Easter Seal Campaign.

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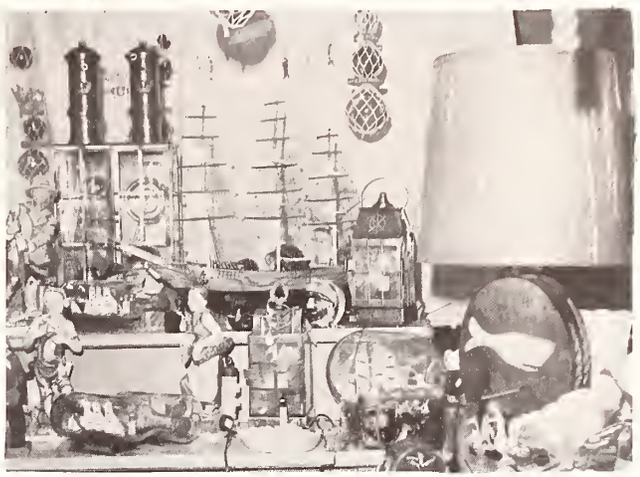

Escape from the hum-drum. Explore our exciting collection of gifts in brass, in copper, in glass and costume jewelry.
Open 12:30-5:30 Closed Mon & Tues.

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gregational Church will meet Tuesday, March 30th, at 10 A.M. at the home of Mrs. Giles Dunn, Point Connett.

Sea Scouts

MEETING FOR SEA SCOUTS

There will be an important meeting for all Sea Scouts this Thursday evening, March 18th, at 7 P.M. at the Fire House, Mattapoisett. Transportation will be provided to bring the Scouts over to the New Bedford Armory to prepare for the coming boat show.

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This month, the Volunteers of America commemorates its 75th year of giving material aid and spiritual solace to the needy and handicapped of America.

The nation-wide religious social welfare organization offers a helping hand to the indigent, the handicapped, the ill and the unemployed, regardless of race, creed, or color. In its Diamond Jubilee year, it looks ahead, not backward.

Founded in 1896 for the betterment of America and Americans, it started its work in the slums of New York City but quickly fanned out across the land to give service to the broken men in prisons and their destitute families, to the lonely, aged and the troubled young, to unwed mothers, children from broken homes, to victims of disaster, to the handicapped. It has recently launched a gigantic non-profit housing program to provide homes for the elderly, low and middle income families.

We congratulate the Volunteers of America for its ever-expanding program, for the humanitarian services which mean so much

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to so many in our community--and in communities across the nation.

Those of us with good fortune of abundance can, by supporting the Volunteers of America, help bring a little more hope and happiness and comfort to the lives of the less fortunate.

As the late President John F. Kennedy said: "To feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and comfort the ill is a dedicated mission. The Volunteers of America does this, and more, and has earned the sincere appreciation and support they receive from the nation."

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE TO REVIEW WARRANT

The Legislative Committee of the Mattapoisett Woman's Club will have a review of the Town Warrant on Tuesday, March 23rd. It will be held in the auditorium of the Town Hall at 7:30 P.M. Copies of the warrant will be prepared by volunteers and will be available.

It is planned to have a Finance Committee member present. All voters are cordially invited to attend.

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A THANK YOU

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the Mattapoisett Police Department for their prompt response to our call for ambulance service.

We especially commend Patrolman Milton Heuberger, Jr. and Patrolman Donald Moran for their kind, courteous and efficient manner during our emergency. It is, indeed, a comfort to know that this excellent service is so readily available at a time of need.

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Power Squadron

CHANGE OF WATCH

Mattapoisett Power Squadron will hold its annual Change of Watch March 20th at the First Congregational Church hall in Marion. A deluxe buffet meal is planned, followed by a unique program, "Everyone should build a backyard boat" or "You don't have to be crazy but it helps". This will be presented by Mr. Don Phipps, owner of Commercial Marine Electronics, and is an illustrated discussion of his experience in building a 60 foot steel boat. This program is one that should be enjoyed by anyone who has ever considered building a boat, built a boat or started building a boat.

A presentation of certificates will be made to the new members who have successfully completed the fall piloting course. An elec-

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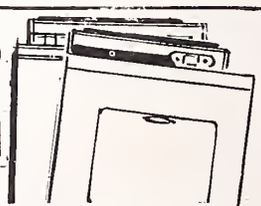
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POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

A THANK YOU . . .

I wish to extend my thanks to all of the voters who supported me in my candidacy for the Mattapoisett Board of Health.

Your generous support during the campaign was most welcome and your support at the polls has been deeply appreciated.

I hope that, at a future date, I may call upon this good will and backing so that I may serve our Town in an active office.

FRANK J. LINHARES

Frank J. Linhares, 34 Acushnet Rd., Mattapoisett

tion of officers will be held and the new officers sworn in.

YWCA NEWS

Mrs. D. Stuart MacIntyre, of Marion, world traveler and lecturer, returns again as guest speaker for the Travel Club on Friday, March 19th, at 8 P.M. Last year Mrs. MacIntyre with her late husband made a five month world tour visiting 28 countries.

"Mid Asia", the subject of the travelogue, with highlights of India, Ceylon and Cambodia, will be illustrated with colored slides Prospective Travel Club members are welcome to attend. A business meeting is called for 7:30 and a coffee hour will follow the program.

Travel Club members' reservations for the "Sugaring-Off" trip to Putney, Vermont on March 28th should be made now. Deadline is March 24th and available spaces are limited.

"It is not too early to think about collecting materials for satin Christmas ornaments," states Mr. Philip Kiluk of the Corner Flower Shop, who will describe how satin ornaments are made at Wednesday's Weekly Luncheon, March 24th, at 12:15 P.M. Jewelry, lace, velvet and tiny beads are among materials used to produce glamorous creations for unusual and individualized Christmas decorations.

All women are cordially invited to attend and enjoy another weekly program and the informality of the simple luncheon planned for the noon hour to accommodate shoppers and downtown workers.

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NEW CONCEPT

The following article by Dr. David Goodenough represents a totally new idea in education. We believe that it will attract major interest in this and in other communities. DCJ

At the recent Special Town Meeting concerning the addition to the Old Hammondtown School, a question was raised as to alternative or innovative educational systems which might decrease the staggering educational costs to the Town. My response to this on the floor had to do with an involvement of industry in at least one phase of educational training. There was inadequate time to fully describe the educational system which would make such involvement feasible. Several inquiries have been directed towards me concerning my remarks and this article is designed to provide a more complete rationale. The proposed changes in the educational system presented here are designed to stimulate thought along lines which some people may consider radical. It is understood that such a series of proposals will be resisted by many special interest groups, one of the most formidable being the educational establishment itself. Nevertheless, my hope is that the reader will restrain himself from quickly jumping to conclusions and attempt to understand the reasoning behind the program presented. Once accepted as a "possibility", much honing can be done to sharpen the educational edges.

Educational reform best arises when deficiencies are seen in the present system and the reformer has a sincere interest in developing a system which will produce the type citizen he believes is necessary for the future. Educational reform needs a guiding underlying principle. In the mid 1950's, the guiding principle in America developed in reaction to Russia having put a satellite into space. Specifically, it had to do with the production of highly skilled scientists. The guiding principle which underlies the following proposals is quite a different one and has to do with how early we feel young people should become adults.

To many of us, the adolescent period in America has become far too long and drawn out. Some of us believe that the absence of easy access to adulthood has contributed in major fashion to the development of a youth anticulture characterized by a purposeless and frequently selfish existence. Despite highly verbalized interest in peace and concern for the welfare of others, there is much evidence of inconsiderate and sometimes sadistically cruel treatment of the youth's own parents. For some of these young people, insight has eventually developed after several years living in the anticulture communities. Unfortunately, before the insight develops, many parents have been tragically hurt, sometimes beyond emotional repair. Too often, the remark of the finally matured young person is, "Man, I never realized you really cared". This inconsistency between ideals and actual behavior is partly due to the adult society's failure to provide an easy transition from the dependent, irresponsibility and undirectedness of early adolescence to the self-reliant, responsible and purposeful behavior which characterize the mature adult.

Many primitive cultures have developed "rites of passage" from childhood to adulthood which greatly reduce this period of uneasy adolescence. Within our own culture, the Jewish custom of bar mitzvah is such a rite of passage and recognizes through a traditional public ceremony that the Jewish boy is ready for adult responsibility. With concerted effort, there is no good reason why our society could not establish a "rite of passage" which would truly recognize a young person's movement into adulthood. It would also be necessary to provide certain social sanctions which would recognize, in a meaningful way, that the young person has become an adult. The following proposals focus on providing such a "rite of passage" and suggest some social sanctions which would make this transition an easy one.

Proposal I: That society make graduation from high school or secondary school a "rite of passage" into adulthood. To accomplish this, we should continue the public ceremony which recognizes the young person's completion of his educational requirements, but in addition, we should provide him with a number of definite social sanctions which have to do with responsible living. Such sanctions might include the license to drive, the license to marry and the right to vote.

Proposal II: That we modify our basic educational system to a 10 year system, 5 years of elementary school and 5 years of secondary school. In order to accomplish this, we might have to cut down the long summer vacation and possibly move to either a trimester or four quarter system. However, there are few educators who would deny the fact that we can now program into 10 years what is currently being taught in 12.

The implications of this proposal should have considerable attractiveness to the local taxpayer. Under such a plan, a local community would have the responsibility of providing kindergarten through tenth grade. In our local school district, this would mean a decrease of approximately 300 students (there are currently 290 enrolled in the junior and senior classes). Using the ratio of one faculty person to 18 students (the current ratio at ORRHS), this plan would make possible a decrease in faculty by 15 teachers. Using the current average salary of $9,500, the savings to our Superintendenc Union in salaries alone (without including the usual increases) would be approximately $150,000 a year or $1,500,000 over a ten year period! Should salaries continue to increase as they have since 1960, the savings to the taxpayer would approximate $2,500,000 over the ten year period. In addition, there would be a savings of 12 classrooms which is equivalent to a school the size of Old Hammondtown. The savings in school construction alone should be obvious. Of prime importance to individuals interested in education is that while the need for additional facilities and personnel can be cut by roughly 17% using this system, the youngsters in the school system itself would receive the same educational benefits they now do, yet be able to make adult decisions about vocation and education by the time they are 16 years old.

It should be noted that the average age at which young people would graduate from secondary school, and the average age at which they would receive social sanctions mentioned earlier would be 16. Although the reader may be at first concerned that 16 is too young an age to become an adult, he should reflect upon the age at which young men often became whaling captains or think about the adult behavior shown by the oldest boy in a family whose father dies when he is 14 or 15. The idea of having high level expectations of a 16 year old in terms of accepting adult responsibility, rests on the belief that the development of this type of maturity can be programmed into school years if the society so wants it. People tend to do what is expected of them and I submit that it is as easy to shape responsible behavior as it is to shape a dependent and irresponsible behavior.

At the time of graduation from 10th grade, the young adult would have the following educational or vocational options:

1. He could enter the work force without expressed interest in either further training or education. This might include un-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

Spring Time!

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YWCA NEWS

The schedule for pool plunge from 8 to 8:45 P.M. beginning March 29th is as follows: Monday, co-ed guest plunge; Tuesday, women's guest plunge; Wednesday, co-ed guest plunge; Thursday, co-ed guest plunge.

The Handicapped Swimming program needs volunteers to teach handicapped children how to swim in the 10-week program sponsored by Easter Seals Society in cooperation with the YWCA, starting Saturday, April 3rd.

Co-ed classes are for young people 6 to 18 years of age, from 4 to 5 P.M. Those interested in participating as class members may contact Easter Seals Society, 997-1271, or YWCA, 999-6201. The Course will be under the direction of Mrs. Trix Whalen, assisted by Hank Gillis and Neil Smedstead, and qualified American Red Cross instructors. Volunteers please contact Mrs. Whalen at the YWCA.

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Rochester Rummage Sale

Rochester Woman's Club is holding a rummage sale at the club house, Route 105, Rochester, on Saturday, March 20th, from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. Co-chairmen are Mrs. George E. Church and Mrs. Robert Sherman. If you have any donations please call Mrs. Sherman or Mrs. Church. The committee is planning to work from 7 to 10 Thursday evening, March 18th, at the club house.

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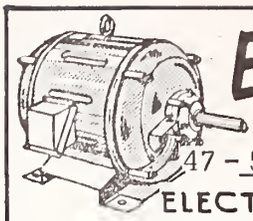

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skilled or semi-skilled jobs such as sales-work, construction laborer, factory laborer, etc.

2. He could take a job with an industry which would provide further and continuing training and educational opportunities. Such training and education could be properly accredited so that successful completion of it would result in college credit. This might include training in skilled areas (such as computer programming), management training, training in fiscal matters, personnel training, etc.

3. He could enter business college set up much as it is at the present time.

4. He could enter a technical school or college for a specific advanced training in the technical skill areas. It should be noted that shop and manual arts training would probably be relegated to the 9th and 10th grade of secondary school and could be accomplished by local apprentice arrangements with such tradesmen as plumbers, carpenters and electricians. In effect, the young high school apprentice could receive school credit for his apprenticeship.

5. He could enter a community college where the basic college education which we now know would be supplied. Individuals going into the health services such as nursing, or into teaching or into social work, etc., would receive their basic education at a community college. The community college would also provide the necessary college education needed to enter professional schools such as engineering, medicine and law.

6. The university, under this system, would return to being an institution devoted to scholarly pursuit and research. In effect, it would be quite similar to what is now provided by graduate schools. Enrollment in community colleges would be greatly increased and enrollment at universities greatly reduced.

As can be seen, the proposed changes would require a major reorganization in our present social scheme and a redefinition of our educational objectives. However, the change would provide several possible advantages:

a. Young people in America would be able to assume a definite and nonambiguous adult role at a much earlier time in their lives. At this time they would become voting citizens and be able to make decisions which would have a major effect on their future. With a re-emphasis on character development and a more efficient program of education, there is no doubt in my mind but what the average 16 year old would be able to meet this type of challenge.

b. One consequence of such a program would be the elimination of both a drop-out and a lost generation problem.

c. Young people would be able to enter professional life by their mid-twenties. For example, with two years of basic college education, four years of medical school and three years of residency, the average physician would be ready for active practice by the time he was 27.

d. Of special significance to the frightened taxpayer, overwhelmed with the cost of elementary and secondary education, would be the need for fewer schools, fewer teachers and fewer elaborate programs which would be more relevantly provided by either industry or the various advanced schools described.

Admittedly, there is much to criticize in such a group of proposals. The reader is apt to see a similarity to the English school system and is likely to feel the plan is oversimplified and not very new. I would submit that to put this plan into operation is far from simple and that the novel feature has to do with the guiding principle itself, namely, that we provide a relatively brief, easy transition from early adolescence to adulthood.

Dave Goodenough

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

For some period of time, the citizens of Mattapoisett, Marion and Rochester have been subjected to a shocking diatribe of half-truths, over-simplifications and slanted reporting. This weekly vituperation against our schools emphasizes and encourages divisiveness and is not in the public interest.

Even more shocking is the fact that the author of these articles has not, in my six years of public service to the town, seen fit to be in attendance at: 1. A single regular meeting of the Old Rochester Regional School Committee. 2. A single meeting during the preparation of annual budgets. 3. The prolonged negotiations for the establishment of a regional middle school. 4. The negotiations for the establishment of the regional junior high school. 5. The meetings of the Old Rochester Regional Junior High School Building Committee.

This refusal to become informed on a first-hand basis amounts to nothing less than a tragedy for our citizens who depend on the Presto Press for much of their information. Accurate reporting, it seems, should carry the double responsibility of thorough investigation of all sides of each issue as well as a resolute search for truth. This, it seems, is imperative in responsible journalism.

The editor says that "the Old Rochester Regional School Committee remains calmly oblivious to the tax resources of this community." I charge that the Presto Press is indifferent to the complexity of the issues, and callous in its process of seeking solutions to our obvious problems. The constant fanning of the flames of discontent and feeding the appetites of distrust is not in the best interest of the taxpayers or the future of our towns.

I challenge the Presto Press to become involved, attend meetings and gain an understanding of the issues. I urge the Presto Press and others to work in a positive manner towards the accomplishment of realistic goals.

Marshall Sawyer, Member
Old Rochester Regional School Committee

EDITORIAL COMMENT

This is an interesting point of view. Are we to assume that no one is qualified to warn the pedestrian, who is about to be run over by a truck, except the designer of the vehicle or those who intimately associated with him during its design?

We have printed several letters inspired by the Old Rochester Regional School Committee meeting of February 25th, concerning the budget. The Presto reported the meeting in detail. The people, who attended, were invited. The questions they asked were invited. The answers were reported as given. More complete answers have been published, in the form of letters, written following the meeting.

We firmly, but respectfully, maintain the unconditional right of any citizen to question any elected official and comment upon the operation of any department of government.

D.C.J.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Your report of the open meeting held at Old Rochester Regional High School on Thursday, February 25th, contains so many misleading bits of information that I feel the residents of the Old Rochester Regional School District deserve to have the facts presented to them. Accordingly, I hope you can find space for this letter.

Concerning the new Junior High School:
1. This school will be built and furnished without any additional money from the towns. (I stated this three times at the open meeting so that no one would misunderstand it.)
2. The two story design of the school was less expensive than a one story design because of the substantially higher cost for site preparation that the one story school would require. Much of our area is quite swampy. 3. The design, in which the second story overhangs part of the first, allows all of the academic classrooms to be clustered about the central library. Extending the first floor walls out to the edge of the overhang would result in building a larger and therefore more expensive building than we require. 4. The two large classrooms, which are each equal in area to four regular classrooms, actually reduce the floor space required since no corridor space is needed between the classrooms.
5. These two large classrooms are designed precisely as indicated in your article so that we can put more students with one

Continued on Page 20

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teacher and thereby effect economies. 6. The regular classrooms are not vast as you indicate but are in fact only 800 square feet which requires special permission from the State now that their minimum is normally 900 square feet for a secondary school. 7. There are some large window areas which open on to the single (not plural) courtyard. These windows let light and air into the interior rooms that otherwise would have no windows. The actual total glass area in the entire school just barely meets the State required minimum area.

Concerning the operation of Old Rochester Regional High School itself: 1. The decision as to which courses the student takes is made by the parents of the student. 2. The limit of six years on the age of the school bus was made after experience of Old Rochester Regional School District

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Dear Member:

Until May 1, the Harbor Beach Club will be closed except on Saturdays and for special parties of 40 or more. Previous commitments will also be honored.

This will allow us time to innovate changes and policies that should be to the best interests of members and guests of the Club.

OPEN 12:30 to 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday

The office is open daily to take Saturday and Easter reservations and answer questions regarding special party functions.

Hoping you are not too inconvenienced and our efforts will result in a better Club, we are

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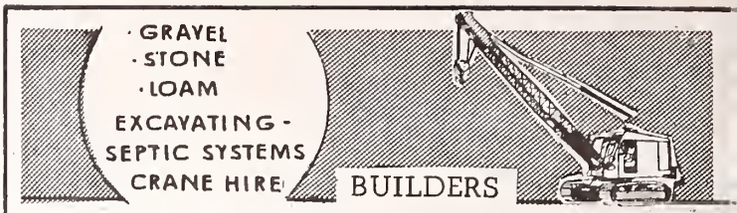

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and also neighboring towns showed that older busses more frequently have breakdowns and safety deficiencies. 3. Our annual operating budget is compiled (it obviously has to be compiled in order to present it to anyone), but it is not voted on for final approval by the Committee until after we have discussed it with the members of the Finance Committees. This fact is clearly shown in the records of our meetings and would be clearly evident to anyone who attended our meetings.

In conclusion, I extend to you and, through your paper, to all residents a continuous invitation to attend our meetings to learn how the school is actually run.

Robert D. Marso, Chairman
Old Rochester Regional District School Committee

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Mattapoisett Grange

BURNHAM TO SPEAK AT GRANGE MEETING

Mattapoisett Grange will hold its meeting this Thursday night, March 18th. Mrs. Diane Spirlet, the worthy master of South Middleboro Grange, and her officers will fill the chairs and conduct the meeting.

Mr. Leonard Burnham of the Sippican-Burnham Nursery, who was to have been the speaker at the last meeting which was cancelled, will be the guest speaker Thursday night.

YWCA CO-EDS COMPETE IN N.E. SWIM MEETS

New Bedford YWCA Regional Competitive Co-ed Classes have been participating and competing in various New England A.A.U. Swim Meets. Boys and girls ranging in ages from 10 to 17 years from the New Bedford area have entered.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR
"THE ENEMY"?

The letter by Mrs. Gingrass (Rochester School Committee member) in the last Presto was, I thought, an excellent one. I take issue in this letter only with the title, which was "School Committees - The Enemy?".

Certain School Committee members seem to feel comments and criticisms, made by interested (and disturbed) citizens are personal attacks on the individual School Committee members. I wish to clear the air, at least as to my own comments made at recent meetings.

School Committee members would do well to remember that, as elected representatives in a Democratic form of government, they are answerable to their constituents, the voters who elected them. Suggestions and criticisms made by those citizens, in good faith, are the "feed back" from constituents that elected officials are constantly looking for and encouraging. THIS IS THE HEART OF THE REPRESENTATIVE FORM OF GOVERNMENT UNDER WHICH WE LIVE. Even President Nixon is very much interested in the results of public opinion polls and in the volume of letters and telegrams he receives in favor of or against a particular proposition.

Comments made by citizens about the school budget, the philosophy of education, or the school administration certainly DO NOT imply that we, the constituents, consider the individual School Committee members as our "enemies". Rather, they merely reflect honest differences of opinion which we, as citizens, have a right (AND DUTY) to make known to our elected representatives.

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DEADLINES - MONDAY 10 AM FOR NEWS AND WANT ADS

An inability or unwillingness on the part of an elected official to accept criticisms and suggestions should raise a serious doubt in the voters' minds as to the ability of that official to carry out his duties properly. In the event any such elected representative, by his votes, indicates that he is insensitive to the opinions of his constituency, THEN perhaps, he might properly be termed an "enemy" of that constituency.

Jerry Stratton

YWCA EVENTS

Solo Parents will dine and dance at the English Coachman Saturday, March 20th, meeting at 8:30 P.M. Members of the club should make reservations with Ann Salvo, president, who is in charge of the event.

MASON WORK - BLOCK, BRICK, CEMENT.
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BUZZARDS BAY AT THE BOURNE BRIDGE

A pot luck supper with an international flavor, sponsored by YWCA Junior Volunteers (group IV) will be held at Newport Navy YMCA Saturday, March 20th, at 6:30 P.M. Junior Volunteers, meeting at the "Y" at 5:30 P.M., are expected to bring meat dishes or casserole dishes, such as meat loaf, American Chop Suey, baked beans or spaghetti. Salads and desserts are needed.

As this is a fund-raising event girls are reminded that all Junior Volunteers must contribute toward supper regardless of whether or not attending.

Prospective YWCA USO participants are invited to attend as guests, but are requested to call the Y for an interview.

The dance, following supper, is from 8 to 11 and return to the city will be midnight. Co-chairmen for the event who may be contacted are Miss Linda Correia, recording

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secretary, 129 Bonney Street; Miss Christine Crape, a new member, 399 Reed Street; and Mrs. Dorothy Mason, senior advisor, 103 Fort Street, Fairhaven.

For further details regarding food members may call Linda, Christine, or the YWCA.

On the evening of March 19th an Armenian meal will be the feature of the YWCA Exotic Food Club. Mrs. Paul Johnson, the former Mrs. E. Berberian and former Solo Parent Club advisor, will be the chef assisted by members of the club. Membership in this club is limited but anyone who is interested may sign up on the waiting list, thereby being available when the opportunity arises.

TIDES

	High		Low	
Mar.	AM	PM	AM	PM
17	11:04	11:28	4:10	4:16
18	11:58	-----	4:58	5:04
19	0:28	12:58	5:52	5:58
20	1:34	2:04	6:58	7:10
21	2:40	3:10	8:10	8:28
22	3:40	4:10	9:28	9:46
23	4:40	5:04	10:28	10:58

"West Side Story"

COVER PHOTOS

Scenes of dress rehearsal at "West Side Story" to be presented this Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8:15 P.M. at the Bristol auditorium at Old Rochester Regional High School.

Top left - Maria's friend Anita reproaches her for being attracted to Tony as she sings "A Boy Like That". Karen Blough, left, and Alix Kyle.

Bottom left - Tormented by the tragic turn of events, Tony and Maria embrace in anguish. Chris Saether and Karen Blough.

Top right - Envisioning a place where they can exist free from hostilities, Maria and Tony sing "There's a Place for Us". Karen Blough and Christian Saether.

Bottom right - In anticipation of a scheduled rumble, gang members Ryan Fountain, Ben Dunn, Jeff Dunn, Paul Gibbs and Paul Graham boastfully sing "The Jets are going to have their way Tonight" during a major production number, "Tonight".